

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to update the current status of a cited U.S. patent application.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claim 4 has been cancelled, while claims 1 and 16 have been amended to include the limitations of cancelled claim 4. In addition, the claims have been amended for clarity.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 6-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0018771 to Walker et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,867,205 to Harrison.

The Walker et al. publication discloses a system and method for supplying supplemental information for video programs, in which, in response to a query from the user, the system provides supplemental information relevant to the query.

The Harrison patent discloses a method and apparatus for controlling video/audio and channel selection for a communication signal based on textual information indicative of channel contents of a signal, in which a "profile unit 260 stores profile information that includes a prioritized list of predefined channels and text captions, associated with the respective predefined channels, that specify items of interest to be monitored by the tuning units 200 and the decoding units 240."

The subject invention relates to the selective provision of complementary information to a video program being watched by a

user. The system and method of the subject invention is characterized in that it anticipates the complementary information that the user may want and stores this anticipatory complementary information, and provides it to the user in response to a query request. In order to determine the anticipatory complementary information, the system and method of the subject invention receives all of the available complementary information and based on stored user profile data, culls the anticipatory complementary information from the available complementary information and stores the anticipatory complementary information. To that end, the subject invention, as claimed in claim 1, includes "receiving complementary information for a video program" and "anticipating complementary information that might be requested by the consumer in response to said received complementary information and consumer profile data collected and stored in user data tables, and storing said anticipatory complementary information", and in response to a query "retrieving the stored anticipatory complementary information" and "providing the anticipatory complementary information as the query response".

Applicants submit that while Harrison discloses the use of "user profile" data, this relates to the scanning of transcripts of the actual video program and not to complementary information. Further, this user profile data is being used to determine which channel should be tuned to at any particular time.

Applicants therefore contend that the combination of Walker et al. and Harrison does not disclose or suggest the

characterizing features of the subject invention as indicated above.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the subject invention, as claimed, is not rendered obvious by the prior art, either individually or collectively, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicants believes that this application, containing claims 1-3 and 6-17, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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